

The Nashville Globe.

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J. O. BATTLEEDITOR

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TO THE PUBLIC.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of THE NASHVILLE GLOBE will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the management.

Send correspondence for publication so as to reach this office Monday. No matter intended for current issue which arrives as late as Thursday can appear in that number, as Thursday is press day.

All news matter sent us for publication must be written only on one side of the paper, and should be accompanied by the name of the contributor; not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The daily papers announced that several of the city councilmen will oppose the recommendation made by the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the city schools, that money be appropriated for the erection of two new schools for our children and the repairing of other schools. These gentlemen take the position, which is in no manner unique, that a sufficient sum is being spent for the education of Negroes and that the buildings are ample. A casual examination of the school facilities offered our children will show the fallacy of the councilmen's contention.

The children living in the section of the city between Jo Johnston avenue and Broad street, to relieve whom one of the proposed schools is to be built, must walk from ten to twenty blocks to reach the nearest school. These children, more often than otherwise mere tots, as only the primary grades are taught in the two nearest schools, are forced to go this long distance in all conditions of weather and those attending Knowles School are constantly exposed to the danger of the grade railroad crossings of the N. C. & St. L. Ry., and the Illinois Central Ry. The latter is not even protected by the usual gates. To force these children to go such distances works a hardship upon them and to constantly expose them to the dangers of the grade crossings is not far from criminality. The crowded conditions which are met on the inside of the school seriously handicap the efforts of the teachers, as in almost every instance the colored teacher has more children under his supervision than is allotted to the white.

We would not impugn the motives of Councilman Marlin, who is sponsor for the opposition movement, even though he lives in the ward which has the largest white population of any in the city, according to the census of 1900. It seems to us, however, that Nashville, with all of her schools of learning, can not afford to let the common educational advantages provided for our people deteriorate by not increasing the facilities as the city grows.

The inequality of the provisions made for the white and black children is too great at present, for those who have the best interests of the two races at heart, to adopt a course of non-improvement for the colored schools. In most of the affairs of the South, "for the colored race" is synonymous with inferior accommodations. We hope that such will not be the case with the Nashville schools.

THE THAW CASE.

What would at first seem an unparalleled assumption of authority by the President of the United States in his

request to Postmaster-General Cortelyou "to know whether it is feasible to bar from the mails the papers that give the full disgusting details of the Thaw case," is, after all, but an attempt to find if the accounts published in the great dailies violate the section of the United States Postal laws which prohibits the publication of "obscene, lewd or lascivious work, pamphlet, picture, print," etc., from the mails. Upon the investigation of the department and its decision as to what is considered "obscene, lewd, or lascivious" will depend the final actions in the case.

President Roosevelt, the busy, impulsive man that he is, yet finds time to read the disgusting details of the Thaw trial. He is shocked! He is disgusted! The shock, the disgust, does not, or should not, come from the fact that the papers are giving the dirty details of the trial, but because there is such a state of rottenness in what might be called the upper classes of white society.

The Thaw case, which resembles the Feist case of this city in that it deals with the immorality of people above the average, is an unusual one. The wealth of the murderer, who is a member of one of the richest families in Pennsylvania and had an excellent social position in his home town, Pittsburgh and London, and the great reputation of the victim who was the greatest architect of his day, lend an interest to the trial that is not limited to New York. Some of the best legal talent in the country has been retained. And as the lawyers probe into this social ulcer to lay bare the "disgusting details" of the iniquitous life practiced by some of the bohemian bontons, the publicity given to their findings is helpful to the general public rather than harmful.

That such putrescence exists among the higher type of the greatest race created, a race thousands of years removed from the rule of the brute passions of savagery, is indeed disgusting. But will the suppression of the facts tend to improve the morals of those who are interested in the case? We think not. We are inclined to agree with the opinion of a Providence, R. I., Baptist preacher, who said: "The tenor of the testimony in the Thaw trial is one of the best indications in recent years of the easy manner in which a young girl may be led astray under such conditions as exist in one of our large cities," and he thought it inadvisable to lose the effects of the "greatest moral lesson of the age" by failing to make the details public.

FISK UNIVERSITY PLACE.

It is a truism as old as the hills that if a man or a race for that matter, ever expects to be anything he or it must own something. As long as a man has nothing to tie him to any particular place his value as a citizen in a vast majority of cases, is a negligible quantity. But when he owns something he immediately takes up that interest in the welfare of the community which all good citizens should feel.

The Negroes of Nashville for the past few years have made remarkable strides forward and are showing their confidence in the city, displaying their determination to remain here, and manifesting their desire to be out of the class who own nothing and are forever under the power of the landlord, by the investing of their incomes in property. In most cases these investments are not made for speculative purposes but for the especial purposes of providing a home for men and their families.

This home purchasing movement has gone steadily forward and one needs but to go in certain sections of the city and he will see places that a few years since were to all interests and purposes wild commons, now dotted with modest but cozy cottages.

The demand for property has been great; the desire even greater. The one hindering cause that has prevented many persons of modest means from indulging their desire to own something has been the fact that out of their meagre incomes it was impossible to save sufficient money to make the first payment. Again, even if this almost insurmountable bar-

rier to owning something has been overcome, the next trial to be faced was the payments. To meet the regular demands made upon the bread-winner as the head of a family and pay upon property at the same time is more than most men making only as much as the average laborer can do. But, as advertised in the columns of The Globe last week, and as is announced on another page of this issue, a plan has been devised whereby any one can purchase a piece of land and that, too, at terms so reasonable that the poorest paid man in the city can meet them.

This plan offered by the Company is practicable and besides the property offered for sale is desirable. The land will form one of the most desirable, healthful and beautiful additions that have ever been made to the city of Nashville. The lay of the land is such that it can be truly called high and dry—free from the swampy marshes so often found in land to be sold.

The property is about three blocks south from the end of Jefferson street. It begins with McLaughlin avenue and runs west to the crest of a hill about one-fourth of a mile away. From almost every lot in the tract the view of Nashville is magnificent. In the foreground is Fisk University, with all the classic beauty of each of the buildings of this great institution shown in bold relief; to the left stretches before the eye the ever-growing North Nashville, while in the distance beyond, to the fore and to the right, may be seen the Capitol and the other prominent buildings of the city proper.

The property is truly an ideal spot and the terms are so reasonable that we feel no hesitancy in recommending the sale to all who desire a home site at reasonable terms.

February was the natal month of three of America's greatest men—George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. Douglass, in an address commemorating the birthday of Lincoln, told the following which has a peculiar application at the present time:

"My mission to him was in regard to the enlistment and the treatment of colored troops. * * * * *

"On the point of promotion, he was equally willing, but on retaliation he asked, 'Where will it stop?' I could see that there was a vista of blood opening to him from which his tender heart shrank. He said, 'If I could get hold of the men that murdered your troops, murdered our prisoners of war, I would execute them, but I cannot take men that may not have had anything to do with this murdering of our soldiers and execute them. No, Mr. Douglass, I don't see where it would stop; besides, I understand they are beginning to treat our colored soldiers as prisoners of war.'"

Sheriff Shipp, his deputies and some of the alleged lynchers of Chattanooga are now facing the commissioner sent to that city by the Supreme Court to investigate the Ed Johnson lynching. The white people of Chattanooga have an excellent opportunity to take some of the medicine that they so frequently prescribe for their colored brother by turning over to the civil authorities the criminals who took Johnson's life. But the opportunity will be passed unless the Supreme Court forces them to do so. We hope the whole gang will feel the heavy hand of the law in so far as the present investigation is concerned and that they will later be prosecuted through a lower court for their criminal deeds.

Alton B. Parker, the whilom leader of what Wallace Irwin calls "the safe insane" party, bobs up serenely semi-occasionally to get off some such advice as would be fitting the sage of Esopus. His last address in which he dealt with the race or Southern problem, failed to arouse any more interest in the Judge than did most of his speeches in 1904. By discussing some of the problems before the American people, however, Judge Parker keeps the people from forgetting the name of the man so ignominiously defeated by Roosevelt.

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The War Department has ordered that hereafter the chief musicians in the bands connected with the colored troops will be colored men providing competent men can be secured. We hope this is an interesting wedge for Negro officers for Negro troops.

The Globe is in receipt of a souvenir program of the banquet tendered Register of the Treasury W. T. Vernon, by some of the prominent citizens of Washington, on January 30th.

Instead of suppressing the details of the Thaw trial, Mr. Roosevelt ought to limit its publication to one New York paper. It would be so much cheaper for the common people to get the whole story then.

What would Teddy do if the court martial should exonerate Maj. Penrose because it found that the "greater" policemen of Brownsville had really shot up the town.

Roosevelt is right. The New York papers should be prohibited from publishing the details of the Thaw case. It costs too much to buy them all.

LOSES HIS HOME.

Fire is very destructive when it breaks out in a tender place. The house owned and occupied by Brison Venson, at 158 Lafayette street, was considerably damaged by fire Thursday morning about 3 o'clock. The fire was well under way when the hose company arrived. The fire is said to have been caused by a defective flue. The loss has been estimated at \$1,000, fully covered by insurance.

"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

On Friday of next week the Junior College Class of Fisk University will present the "Merchant of Venice" in the Fisk Memorial Chapel, commencing at 8 p. m. Much care, time and pains have been spent in preparation and practice towards the end of making the play the huge success that indications show it would be. Among the personnel are James A. Myers, of Lexington, Ky., in the role of Antonio, the merchant, and William Arthur Macintyre, of Port of Spain, Trinidad, B. N. I., as Bassanio, the friend and born companion of Antonio.

The proceeds are to be devoted to the endowment fund of the Carnegie Library, and it is hoped that this fact, apart from the literary treat in store, will draw a representative gathering of the lovers of race progress.

THE LADIES AID CIRCLE.

The Ladies' Aid Circle of Clark Memorial Church celebrated their first anniversary, February 11, at the home of Mrs. Walter Shelby, 734 Tenth avenue, South. Prof. Thos. Hardman

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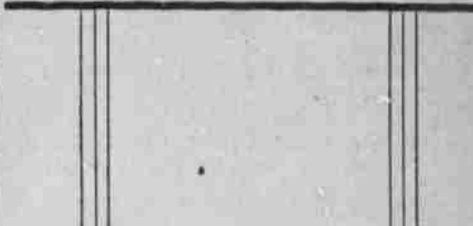
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paid a beautiful tribute to the ladies of the Circle. He made an excellent speech. He spoke of the good work the ladies had done for the church the past year. After Prof. Hardman's speech a program was rendered by some of the best talent of the city.